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incurable and those past cure, if they have no relatives able to provide for them, should be placed in properly-conducted institutions. The children of such people, and abandoned children must be so maintained and educated that they will not fall into the evil ways of their parents. This leads to the discussion of charity organization societies, the first being established in London in 1869. There are now sixty-eight in England and Scotland, three in Australia, and seventy-eight in America. Their object is thus practically stated by the Manual of the London Society: "The main object is the improvement of the condition of the poor, (1) by bringing about coöperation between the Charities and the Poor-Law, and amongst the Charities; (2) by securing due investigation and fitting action in all cases; and (3) by repressing mendicity."

The machinery of these societies is clearly outlined, and brief suggestions are given for the treatment of different classes of cases. Their methods are "individual work and coöperation, aided by inquiry, and, as far as possible, adequacy of assistance."

Mr. Loch has made a valuable contribution to the literature of charities, and his work will doubtless receive the recognition it deserves.

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UEBER DEN JAPANISCHEN GRUNDBESITZ, DESSEN VERTEILUNG UND LANDWIRTSCHAFTLICHE VERWERTUNG. Eine historische und statistische Studie. Von Dr. Phil. INAZO NITOBE, Sapporo, Japan. Pp. 91. Berlin: Paul Parey, 1890.

In this pamphlet the author, who returns to his native country as professor in the Imperial Agricultural College of Sapporo, gives us an instructive account of the agriculture of Japan, with especial reference to the division of landed property. At a time when the political fortunes of Japan are exciting such general interest a work like the present is especially welcome. It affords us glimpses into

the social structure of the nation, the life and industrial relations of the people, which must be very valuable in enabling us to determine the true meaning of political action.

The division of landed property is considered historically in the first chapter. The author has found in parts of Japan traces of the old village community, but hesitates to declare this the original form of landed ownership. In the earliest times of which records are preserved many different forms of land tenure can be observed. Later they are swallowed up in the feudal system, which deprived the Emperor of his power and created a number of feudal princes, with their retainers, drawing an income from the soil which was tilled by the peasants. When in 1871 feudalism was abolished, the lords and retainers were bought out by the Government, receiving in return for their landed rights evidences of public indebtedness at the capitalized value of their rents, while the soil was turned over to the peasants who tilled it, their payment of rent being transformed into a tax payable into the public treasury.

In the following chapter the author discusses the distribution of the various kinds of lands and their owners. The relation of the State to forests, and its policy in regard to those in its own possession, are studied, while the subject receiving most attention is naturally the arable land. This consists largely in rice fields, since rice forms, according to official calculation, fifty-three per cent. of the food consumption of the people. According to the author, the cultivation of rice is not suited to the climatic conditions of large parts of the island, and the use of rice as the chief food has had many unfortunate results. It has confined the peasants to a single culture, thus bringing into use for this purpose lands better suited to other crops, and leaving much land waste which would otherwise be used, besides injuring the rivers as the paths of commerce by draining off their water for irrigation. As a result of these

and other factors the average holding of the farmer is very minute. The author gives it as a trifle less than two and a half acres for each peasant, representing a family of five persons. It is not to be wondered at that the condition of the agricultural population, who embrace 71.23 per cent. of the population of "Old Japan," should excite some alarm, or that the fear should be expressed that the Japanese agriculturalist is in danger of becoming as real a proletarian as may be found in our centres of urban population. The author holds out, at the close of his work, a hope that improvement may come through a settlement of the northern islands, whose conditions vary essentially from the southern ones, which he describes under the name of "Old Japan."

The work is based on European and native sources. Where the former are used it is, of course, with a criticism which enhances the value of the citations. The work in general bears evidence of extensive reading, and abounds in interesting comparisons with European conditions.

R. P. F.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE SCIENCE OF POLITICS.
By SIR FREDERICK POLLOCK, Bart., M.A., Hon. LL.D. Edin.,
Corpus Christi Professor of Jurisprudence in the University of
Oxford; late fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. Pp. x., 128.
London and New York: Macmillan & Co., 1890.

THIS essay was delivered as a course of lectures at the Royal Institution, in 1882, and shortly afterward published as a series of articles in the *Fortnightly Review*. Circumstances, remarks Mr. Pollock in his preface, have compelled the publication of the articles in the present form, only such revision having been undertaken as was consistent with their original character. Those who have read Mr. Pollock's earlier work, entitled *Essays in Jurisprudence and Ethics*, were impressed with the thoroughness and thoughtfulness of his examination of the legal and ethical aspects of human society. In this latest work